



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of

KOUHEI YAMASHITA and
JO EBARA

Serial No. 10/649,540

Filed August 27, 2003

For CASSETTE HOLDER

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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on this 16th day of December, 2003

Norma J. Payerle
Norma J. Payerle, Secretary to Edward G. Greive

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

37 CFR §§ 1.97, 1.98

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

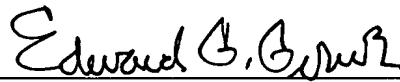
Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants hereby submit the following in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR §1.56.

Information or art known to the Applicants and having an extent of relevance to the present application has been listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto. It includes two Japanese publications with Abstracts. The Applicants have employed Form PTO-1449 for the purposes of convenience of the Office and the Examiner.

No representation is made that a specific search has been made, that the information is pertinent to the claimed subject matter, that the information is non-cumulative, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicants do not admit that any of the information they have provided is necessarily prior to their invention but rather that it is information of which they are aware and that they believe should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of their duty of disclosure. Any question that may arise regarding priority of a specific reference shall be resolved during prosecution.

It is the position of the Applicants that none of the art provided herein accomplishes the objects of the present invention. The Applicants believe that the claims of the subject application are patentably distinct over the art of record. In the event the Examiner would care to discuss any of the foregoing more specifically, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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December 16, 2003

Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT
Yamashita et al.

FILING DATE
August 27, 2003

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If Appropriate)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes	No
09-265697	10/97	Japan (with Abstract)	G11B	15/665		X
2002-170305	06/02	Japan (with Abstract)	G11B	15/675		X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.